

Penguins in Motion

Penguins live only in the southern hemisphere, in places like Antarctica and the Galapagos Islands. They are birds but they cannot fly. But that doesn't mean they don't get around!



Waddling On Land

To walk, penguins waddle across the ice, bobbing left and right, inching their way forward. Their webbed feet loop out to the side with each step. They use the little flaps on their sides to help steady themselves. They can go a little faster if they flop down on their bellies and slide along the ice and snow.

Zippering Through the Water

Penguins look clumsy on land but it's a different story when they are in the water. When swimming they have more amazing moves than an Olympic

gymnast. Put a penguin in the water and let the action begin!

They zip around the icy Antarctic waters like torpedoes with tuxedos on. The little wing flaps and the webbing between their toes help move them through the water at high speeds. Penguins have been clocked as fast as 27 miles per hour.

Bird that Can't Fly

Penguins are birds, but they look very different from the birds in your backyard. And we know they can't fly like the birds that come to your bird feeder. But why are they still called birds? Like all birds, penguins have light, air-filled bones and a beak with no teeth. Penguins have feathers and must comb them with their beaks. And they lay eggs like all birds do.

Maybe penguins can't fly through the air like a robin or an eagle but they sure can fly when they are under water!

